

## **Weekly Status & Information Report: July 11 - 15, 2011**

### **Official City Meetings Scheduled the Week of July 18, 2011:**

- City Council meeting, Monday, July 18, 7:30 p.m. in the Auditorium
- Washington Adventist Hospital Land Use Committee meeting, Tuesday, July 19, 7:30 p.m. in the Lilac Room
- Commission on Landlord-Tenant Affairs hearing, Tuesday, July 19, 7 p.m. in the Hydrangea Room

All meetings are held in the Community Center and open to the public unless noted otherwise. Contact [jessiec@takomagov.org](mailto:jessiec@takomagov.org) to check for cancellations or for additional information. *(City Clerk)*

**Funding for the Police:** The City is seeking funding from the U.S. Department of Justice under the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (BJAG) program, as allocated in the Federal FY2011 cycle. Proposed use of the funds will be for continuation for 24 weeks of the part time Research and Policy development position within the Takoma Park Police Department. The position researches new procedures, equipment, tactics and cutting edge issues. The employee reviews existing policy and revises them as needed, as well as develops new policy and procedures for emerging issues affecting the agency. Funding amount sought in this grant program is \$11,159. A public comment period of 30 days is being provided prior to any obligations of payment under this program. Comments should be forwarded to: Capt. Edward E. Coursey, Takoma Park Police Department, 7500 Maple Avenue, Takoma Park, MD 20912, [edwardc@takomagov.org](mailto:edwardc@takomagov.org), 301-891-7105. *(Police)*

**Homeland Security Efforts:** On July 14, Capt. Coursey attended a meeting called by the Montgomery County Office of Emergency Management and Homeland Security of all points of contact within the county for emergency management. The meeting was the first of what will likely be quarterly meetings to enhance the relationship amongst non-county entities within the county, including municipalities, in order to help foster better overall emergency preparedness of the entire county. It was an overt acknowledgment that the County Departments are not the sole providers of service during emergencies to citizens of this County, and was another example of the collegial atmosphere that OEMHS Director Chris Voss has brought to the arena of emergency management and municipal relations. *(Police)*

**Emergency Homeowner Loan Program - Deadline July 22:** Homeowners who are unemployed and struggling to stay in their homes can apply for emergency funding to avoid foreclosure through HUD's Emergency Homeowner Loan Program (EHLF). The program will provide a forgivable bridge loan of up to \$50,000 to pay mortgage, tax and insurance bills for up to two years. Pre-application for the EHLF must be submitted by July 22. Unemployed and underemployed homeowners (due to job loss or serious medical condition) who are 90 days delinquent on their mortgage payment are eligible to apply. Visit [www.findehlp.org](http://www.findehlp.org) for the pre-application or call 301-891-7222. *(Housing and Community Development)*

**Home Owners and Renters Tax Credit Applications Due by September 1:** Don't miss the September 1, 2011 deadline for submitting your applications for the Maryland Tax Credit Programs. They are designed to help low income home owners and renters by limiting the amount that they must pay in property taxes. To receive the tax credit, an application and all supporting documentation must be sent to the Maryland Department of Assessments and Taxation no later than September 1 of each year. To obtain an application for either tax credit program, you can call 301-891-7222 or access it on the state's website, [www.dat.state.md.us/sdatweb/sdatforms.html](http://www.dat.state.md.us/sdatweb/sdatforms.html) and scroll to the bottom of the page. *(Housing and Community Development)*

**Takoma Park Overlook (Ward 4):** A revised preliminary plan has been submitted for the residential development on 119, 121, 125, 127 Geneva Avenue. The plan is anticipated to be reviewed by the Planning Board this fall. The plans are available for viewing at the Housing & Community Development office (Housing & Community Development). *(Housing and Community Development)*

**Urban Design Guidelines - Takoma Langley (Ward 6):** M-NCPPC met with the City to provide an overview of their proposed design guidelines. The design guidelines address building placement and massing, street cross sections, limited architectural features, parks, and limited sustainability goals. They will not include any streetscape standards. The Planning Department intends to develop streetscape standards in the future as part of a County-wide set at an undefined date. *(Housing and Community Development)*

**CR Zones (Ward 6):** The County Council's PHED Committee met twice to discuss the CR Zones this week, focusing on understanding the "carrot" portion of the CR Zones - the public benefits that are provided in exchange for additional density. They took definitive action to raise the number of points given to providing affordable housing (MPDU units) above that required by law (12.5%), and eliminated the benefit for provision of way finding signage. The City provided clarification on which public benefits would be usable in small property redevelopments (many are not, and in the prior version most either were not usable for small properties or were very expensive). The City also stated that the appearance of a building (the "elevation") is important and, once approved, should be binding on the developer. Next week on July 18, the PHED Committee will be considering an abbreviated list. *(Housing and Community Development)*

**Takoma/Langley Crossroads Sector Plan (Ward 6):** Montgomery County Council PHED Committee will be discussing the Sector Plan on Thursday, July 21 in the afternoon. *(Housing and Community Development)*

**A Natural History of My Husband's Cars - July 29:** "We are Takoma" returns with the world premier performance of "A Natural History of My Husband's Cars" on Friday, July 29 at 7:30 PM in the Takoma Park Auditorium (7500 Maple Avenue). From the '61 Mercury Station Wagon to the '72 Oldsmobile to the '90 Plymouth Laser, take a ride through one man's automotive life and times. A multi-media performance not to be missed. Free - donations welcome

<http://www.facebook.com/home.php#!/event.php?eid=233100133387037> (*Housing and Community Development*)

**"Music Makes a Difference" Concert:** "We are Takoma" continues on Saturday, July 30 with a night full of Irish, Scottish, Quebequois and American Folk music! Concert begins at 7:00 PM and will be held in the Takoma Park Auditorium (7500 Maple Avenue), Free - donations welcome and will be used for research on skin cancer treatment and prevention. (*Housing and Community Development*)

**Tiny Tykes Basketball Skills:** Last Saturday, 15 eager participants ages 3-5 showed up ready to learn the game of basketball on very short baskets! Each child had lots of fun as they were taught the proper way to make chest passes, bounce passes and were introduced to the basics of playing good defense. Program is held on Saturday mornings from 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. on the outdoor basketball courts at Takoma Park Community Center. For additional information, please contact Lew McAllister at LewM@takomagov.org. (*Recreation*)

**Rookie Sports Camp – Another Great Week:** This past week 15 campers, ages 3-5, participated in Session 2 of the Rookie Sports Camp. Campers were able to learn sports such as bowling, basketball, football, soccer and T-ball. Each participant had FUN, learned a lot and most of all made new friends!! Participation awards were given out to each participant to honor their hard work throughout the week. (*Recreation*)

**Ships Ahoy!!** This week Camp Takoma was invaded by pirates. Activities included making pirate ships, decorating pirate swords, jolly roger flags, telescopes and maps. We also sang sea worthy songs and played games like "Walk the Plank," "Pirates, where's your gold?," "Cannon Ball Sea Battle," "Swab the Decks," "Here Comes the Captain" and their favorite game, "Mutiny on the High Seas." On Thursday, Camp Takoma ventured out on the high seas of the Chesapeake on a pirate ship where kids got to dress up and talk like pirates and even capture the bad guys who stole their treasure. Next week's adventure takes us to the Wild Wild West with square dancing, rodeos and learning how to be a cowboy. (*Recreation*)

**Seniors Visit the Baltimore Museum of Art:** The Baltimore Museum of Art's outstanding collection encompasses 90,000 works of well-known artists including Henri Matisse, Pablo Picasso, Paul Cezanne, and Vincent Van Gogh. Eighteen seniors spent the day on Thursday, July 14, viewing the museum's art collection, sculpture garden, and enjoying lunch at the museum's famous "Gertrude's" restaurant. (*Recreation*)

**Seniors Play to Win:** Seniors had their chance to participate in one of their favorite television game shows this week at the Takoma Park Community Center. On July 12, Paula and Carey of the Recreation Department acted as hosts for the senior program's interpretation of *The Price is Right*. Participants had a great time at this event, and they are looking forward to the last game show of the summer, *Let's Make A Deal*. (*Recreation*)

**Silver Foxes Advisory Meeting:** On July 15, members of the Seniors Advisory Group joined together for their meeting in the Senior Room. Special guest, Kay Daniels Cohen, Takoma Junction Task Force, spoke briefly to seniors about services available to residents from the business community, and to gather their ideas and suggestions to improve services. (*Recreation*)

**Teens are Still On The Move!!** The Teens On The Move program is in its second week, so the fun continues. From Monday through Friday, the teens participated in a variety of activities including going to the cinema to see the Transformers movie, swimming at MLK Pool, Go Karts in Crofton, Fishing in Black Hill Park, community service at Interfaith and the week ended with paddleboating at the Tidal Basin in DC, and a cookout. In addition, on Thursday the teens met with Kay Cohen-Daniels at the Teen Garden to discuss the blooming vegetables and to personally collect a variety of herbs to prepare for an Italian food dish. Week 3 of Teens On The Move will include attending a WNBA Mystics game at the Verizon Center and White Water Tubing on Friday. (*Recreation*)

**Camp Recess:** At Camp Recess, the fun just does not stop! The third week of Camp Recess was another exciting and enjoyable session. Highlights included campers swimming at Long Branch Pool. It was a hot day on Tuesday, so the pool was a welcome treat for all. Dave Burbank of the Takoma Park Library had a fun-filled interactive Comic Jam presentation. Officer Joe Butler of the Takoma Park Police Department came to Camp Recess and surprised all of the campers with pizza. A special thank you to Officer Butler. Our week ending cook-out was sponsored by the American Legion. A special thanks to them as well. (*Recreation*)

**Comics Jam:** Join us for a special evening Comics Jam on Monday, July 18, at 7:00 p.m. Dave Burbank, our graphic novel guru, will lead our presentation as we read comics together on the big screen, using our special ELMO document camera purchased by the Friends of the Takoma Park Maryland Library. No registration necessary for this hour-long program, which will conclude with Dave, our in-house artist, taking "drawing requests" from the audience. (*Library*)

**Summer Quest:** In our Summer Quest program, 125 kids now have read at least one book to get onto the "big board" in the Children's Room. Three young readers actually have completed all 10 reading challenges to finish! So far, participants have read a total of 667 books in Summer Quest, which concludes on Monday, September 12 with a 7:00 p.m. party and free books for all. (*Library*)

**Traffic Enforcement:** Officers conducted at least 178 traffic stops, which resulted in citations, 10 vehicle impounds, two Driving Under the Influence (DUI) arrests and two arrests from traffic stops for warrants.

***During July 8-13, 2011, the following details were completed:***

#### July 8, 2011

- Ethan Allen Avenue & Jackson Avenue (stop sign enforcement) – conducted a 30-minute detail and issued one warning.
- Erskine Street at 13th Place (stop sign enforcement) - conducted a 60-minute detail and issued four State citations and one warning.

#### July 9, 2011

- East West Highway & Kentland Avenue (speeding) - conducted a 60-minute detail and issued two State citations for speed and two other State citations.
- Erskine Street at 13th Place (stop sign enforcement) - conducted a 60-minute detail and issued three State citations and one warning.
- Ethan Allen Avenue & Jackson Avenue (stop sign enforcement) - conducted a 60-minute detail and issued no citations or warnings.
- 1000 block of East West Highway (speeding) - conducted a 60-minute detail and issued two State citations for speed and four other State citations.
- New Hampshire Avenue & University Blvd (tag reader-suspensions) - conducted a two and a half hour detail and issued 10 State citations and one Safety Equipment Repair Order (SERO).

#### July 10, 2011

- Ethan Allen Avenue & Jackson Avenue (stop sign enforcement) - conducted a 60-minute detail and issued four State citations and one Safety Equipment Repair Order (SERO).
- East West Highway & Kentland Avenue (speeding) - conducted a 60-minute detail and issued two State citations and one warning.
- Erskine Street & 13th Place (stop sign enforcement) - conducted a 90-minute detail and issued three State citations.

#### July 11, 2011

- Erskine Street & 13th Avenue (stop sign enforcement) - conducted a 30-minute detail and issued three State citations.
- 1000 block of East West Highway (speeding) - conducted a two-hour detail and issued six State citations for speed, one other State citation and one warning.
- 7500 block of Carroll Avenue (speeding) - conducted a 30-minute detail and issued one State citation.
- Takoma-Langley Crossroads area (tag reader-suspensions) – conducted a detail at various times and issued seven State citations.
- Erskine Street & 13th Avenue (stop sign enforcement) - conducted a 30-minute detail and issued three State citations.

#### July 12, 2011

- Flower Avenue & Piney Branch Road (miscellaneous enforcement) - conducted a 60-minute detail and issued two warnings.
- 1000 block of East West Highway (speeding) - conducted a two and a half hour detail and issued eight State citations for speed and four other State citations.
- Takoma-Langley Crossroads area (tag reader-suspensions) – conducted a detail at various times and issued seven State citations.

#### July 13, 2011

- Prince George's Avenue & Circle Avenue (miscellaneous enforcement) – conducted a detail at various times and issued no citations or warnings.
  - Prince George's Avenue & Belford Place (stop sign enforcement) - conducted a 30-minute detail and issued two State citations.
- (Police)

#### **Traffic Officer Stats (Cpl. Michelle Holmes) Week 7/10/11 – 7/16/11:**

Hours worked: 40

Calls for service: 6

State Citations issued: 94

Safety Equipment Repair Orders (SEROs) issued: 7

Warnings: 2

City tickets: 3

Reports: 5

(Police)